The Chronicle and Index

OF THE UNITARIAN SOCIETY.

No. 17, Vol. 15.] BELFAST, ~~MAY~~ June 1st, 1882, [For Gratuitous Circulation

THE UNITARIAN ANNIVERSARIES.

THE Fifty-first Anniversary of the Unitarian Society of Belfast has just been celebrated. The preacher of the year was the Rev. C. C. Coe, F.R.G.S., of Bolton, who preached on Sunday, April 23rd, admirable and eloquent sermons morning and evening in the Church of the Second Congregation, Belfast, and in the afternoon in the spacious church at Moneyrea. In both places he was heard with great attention and delight, and collections were made on behalf of the funds of the Society—in Belfast the amount collected was nearly £35, and in Moneyrea upwards of £6. Our Moneyrea friends, besides their handsome collection, doubled their contributions to the Society, following the lead of their energetic minister, Mr. Rylett.

Mr. Ullathorne preached at Carrickfergus the same day for the Society, and a satisfactory collection was made, while the congregation of Killinchy had already sent us a contribution of £1 10s in aid of the funds.

ON Tuesday morning, April 25th, there was a delightful gathering for breakfast in the Castle Café, when, in addition to the attendance of a large number of ladies who graced the proceedings by their presence, the following gentlemen were also present:—H. Hyndman, LL.D.; W. B. Ritchie, M.D., J.P.; T. M'Clelland, J.P.; the Revs. C. C. Coe, F.R.G.S.; Alex. Webster, Harold Rylett, J. J. Wright, J. Cooper, R. E. Dunne, and J. C. Street; C. J. G. Eiloart (London), F. Allen (London), J. M. Darbishire, T. Ritchie, R. M'Calmont, James Campbell, D. M. Moore, J. Bennett, and G. Fisher.

Dr HYNDMAN occupied the chair.

The Chairman thanked them for having placed him in the chair, and at the same time he asked their indulgence while he made a few remarks. There were occasions when the breakfast-table was made the scene of festive rejoicing, and he believed the present occasion would be made the scene of rejoicing, although they had not the advantage of having the bride's cake on the table. (Hear, hear.) The first business he had to ask them to proceed with was to welcome the friends who had come from a distance—from England and from Scotland—to express their sympathy, and to help them with the work which they have got to do in this part of the world. He was sure they would be gratified by the large attendance there that morning, especially when they considered that there was a great many difficulties in the way of people attending, because business and household duties would keep many of them away. On the whole, however, he thought they might congratulate themselves on the fact that they were advancing, and that they had something to work upon in the direction in which they were desirous of moving. (Hear, hear.) He regretted to see the absence of some members of their churches in Belfast, for he would like to see them taking part in their work the same as in other parts of the country, and he especially wished that some of their Belfast brethren had witnessed the great meeting in Liverpool which he attended the other day, where they all held their own individual opinions on various religious points, but where they all met together and worked pleasantly for the general good. (Applause.) He thought it was a pity they could not carry that spirit out more fully in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) He was very glad indeed to welcome four gentlemen who were with them—three from England and one from Scotland—who had come across the water to show how much interest they and their friends were taking in their affairs in Ireland, and he hoped they would be able to give them some encouragement and some suggestions in the work they were doing or striving to do, and return to their own country without being obliged to give a doleful view of the position of the Church in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) Regarding Sunday schools, he looked upon them as one of the principal and most efficient means of promoting the views which they held, and therefore it behoved them as much as possible to develop and enlarge their Sunday schools. He was sorry to say he did not take the same active interest in these institutions which he was sure his friend Mr. Allen did; but from Mr. Allen

they would, he was sure, receive a large amount of information on the subject. (Hear, hear.) In their school in Hopeton Street he was convinced they were doing a large amount of good work, and it certainly was necessary that their youth should be brought up and trained in the proper path which they should follow through life. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

Mr. Thos. M'Clelland, J.P., moved the following resolution cordially welcoming the strangers to Belfast :—

That we extend to the representatives of kindred Associations who have honoured our Anniversary with their presence a hearty welcome, and through them we would convey to the Associations they represent our cordial sympathy and good-will.

In the first place they had the Rev. Mr. Coe, and he did not know whether it was in his province to say anything about him or not. They were in the habit of hearing very good sermons in Belfast, but he would say that he never heard anything more delightful, or any sermons he more enjoyed, than those preached by Mr. Coe on Sunday last. The other gentlemen had been here on several previous occasions, and to them all he was sure they would extend a hearty welcome.

Mr. J. M. Darbishire seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Frederick Allen, the representative of the Sunday School Association of London, replied, and assured the meeting of the warm sympathy of the members of his society in London with the work in which they were engaged in Belfast, both in the Church and in their Sunday schools, and he trusted they would always be found willing to support them in any work which they might undertake in Belfast. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. C. J. G. Eiloart, London, as the representative of the British and Foreign Association, responded, and he was followed by the Rev. C. C. Coe, of Bolton, and the Rev. A. Webster, of Glasgow.

Rev. J. J. Wright, of Mountpottinger, then read an interesting paper on "Sunday School Libraries," which we hope to print *in extenso* in our next number.

On the motion of the Rev. H. Rylett, seconded by Mr. George Fisher, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. Wright.

It was then moved by Mr. John Ritchie, seconded by the Rev. J. C. Street—

That our warmest thanks be given to Dr. Hyndman for his services this day

Dr. Hyndman suitably responded, and the interesting proceedings closed a little after twelve o'clock.

ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING.

IN the evening the Annual Meeting was held in the Lecture Hall, Rosemary Street, under the presidency of Mr. T. M'Clelland. There was capital attendance. Among those present were : Revs. C. C. Coe (Bolton) ; A. Webster (Glasgow) ; J. C. Street, J. Cooper, H. Rylett, J. J. Wright, R. E Dunne, and Messrs. J. Ritchie, J. M. Darbishire, C. J. G. Eiloart (London) ; F. Allen (London) ; R. M'Calmont, G. Stewart, D. Young, H. Darbishire, J. F. Mulligan, Dr. M'Caw, H. Hunter, G. Fisher, L. Dobbin, A. Ullathorne, T. E. Osborne, F. E. Dale, W. M'Calmont, J. Jackson, G. Muirhead, J. J. Hardy, D. M'Master, J. Anderson, A. Stewart, D. Bodell, J. M'Giffin, J. Bennett, Dr. J. Polly, R. Erskine, Dr. Hyndman, D. W. Moore, E. Gardner, LL.D. ; R. Dickson, J. Greenhill, W. R. Stitt, J. M'Cammon, W. C. Dobbin, John Dobbin, W. Rankin, W. B. Caughey, &c.

The Chairman said, as the retiring President of the Society, it became his duty to say a few words on that occasion, giving an account of the manner in which he had discharged his office during the year of his appointment. At the same time, as the report to be read would be found to be full and explicit, he need not uselessly detain them by any lengthened remarks. He found the Society during his year of office held fourteen meetings, and he had been present assisting at thirteen of these meetings. The Society suffered to some extent by what they all so much regretted—the illness and absence for seven months of one of the secretaries, Rev. J. C. Street—but notwithstanding that, he was happy to be enabled to announce that financially they were in a sound and satisfactory condition, and the sales at the Depository exceeded those of any previous year. For this state of affairs at the Depository they were much indebted to Miss Dickson, who had discharged her duties with extreme faithfulness, and with a courtesy and kindness approved by all. (Applause.)

Mr. M'Calmont (one of the Secretaries) then read the following report :—

In offering the Fifty-first Annual Report of the Unitarian Society, the Committee are glad to record that the Society continues to be in a prosperous condition.

Though the year has been marked by a good deal of disorganization in the work of the Society, owing to the protracted illness and absence of one of your secretaries, the Rev. J. C. Street, and the frequent absence from home of his colleague, Mr. R. M'Calmont, yet it is satisfactory to report that, on the whole, the Society has suffered no great injury, but has gone steadily on in its useful and silent way.

Owing, however, to the facts alluded to, the promised volume of the proceedings of the Jubilee year has not been prepared. The matter was in the hands of Mr. Street, but seven months of illness and absence from Belfast rendered it impossible for him to give the needful attention to it, and your Committee in his absence did not feel it desirable to go on with the work. They do not now recommend the publication of the proposed volume. The Jubilee meetings were eminently successful, and their influence for good will long be felt in this community. Your Committee are glad to report that a special fund was raised which covered all the expenses of the Jubilee.

At the first meeting of the General Council, held on May 12th, T. M'Clelland, Esq., J.P., was unanimously elected President for the year. The Vice-Presidents and the various Committees for the year were also appointed.

There have been 14 meetings of the Committee during the year, and the following has been the attendance of the various members :—

T. M'CLELLAND, *President*, 13.

W. A. ADAMSON,	3	D. M'MASTER,	2
J. M. DARBISHIRE,	10	J. F. MULLIGAN,	13
W. C. DOBBIN,	1	J. R. NEILL,	3
GEORGE FISHER,	4	J. RITCHIE,	0
REV. J. A. KELLY,	3	REV. H. RYLETT,	4
DR. J. M'CAW	6	D. THOMPSON,	2
REV. J. J. WRIGHT,	12	REV. F. THOMAS,	0
JAMES M'WILLIAMS,	1		

Treasurer :
H. HYNDMAN, 12

Secretaries :
REV. J. C. STREET, 8 R. M'CALMONT, 4

Your Committee were sorry, early in their year of office, to lose the services of their active colleague, Mr. D. Thompson, who resigned in consequence of his removal to England. A cordial vote of thanks was given to him for his services, coupled with an expression of regret that the Society would lose his earnest co-operation in future.

The Treasurer's statement for the year shows £476 2s 2½d receipts ; and £408 16s 7d expenditure.

It will be remembered that the sales at the Depository reached in 1880 the unprecedentedly large sum of £275 14s. 2½d. Your Committee are glad to report that the same high figure has been maintained in 1881 —the sales amounting to £278 12s. 11½d. The number of Books sold during the year was 3,131, while large numbers of useful and valuable tracts were sold and given away.

Miss Dickson has continued to discharge her duties as Agent to the Society with great faithfulness and success ; and your Committee are glad to renew their testimony to her assiduity and care in the management of the Depository.

Your Society was represented at the meetings of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association, the Sunday School Association, the Scottish Unitarian Association, and the Manchester Sunday School Association, by Rev. J. J. Wright, Geo. Fisher, Esq., and R. M'Calmont, Esq., respectively, and, as usual, a cordial welcome was offered to your representatives.

Only one Sunday School Conference was held during the year. The meeting was in Hopeton St. School Room. The Chair was occupied by your President, and the Rev. J. A. Kelly read a Paper on "Our duty to our young people." An interesting and useful conversation followed the reading of the Paper.

The Annual Floral Service was held in Rosemary Street Church, Belfast, and was attended by a crowded congregation of children and adults. Mr. Street came over from Matlock specially to conduct the service, which was altogether of a most refreshing and delightful character.

It is not necessary in this report to specify the School Books and Religious Literature which have been published and circulated during the year. In the pages of the *Chronicle and Index* notices of these have appeared from month to month, and the attention thus drawn to them has led to a considerable sale of them all.

For sixteen months the *Chronicle and Index* has been regularly published. Sixteen thousand copies have been circulated. Your Committee have reason to know that it has already done good service to the cause of Liberal Religion, and that its appearance from month to month is pleasurably anticipated. Its notices of books have caused many of them to be inquired for, and its interesting pages have added to your list of friends and supporters. Your Committee believe that the members of the Society will be glad to know that it has been resolved to continue the publication.

It will have been seen that your Committee have transferred the Depository from Donegall Street to No. 16 Queen's Arcade. In doing this they have shaken themselves free from heavy liabilities for rent, and the necessity of sub-letting part of their premises, and have at the same time, as they believe, secured premises in every way more suitable and attractive. It is possible that for a little while there may be a falling off in the receipts, but your Committee are confident that ere long it will be found that the Queen's Arcade is even more advantageous for their purposes than Donegall Street ever was.

Your Committee and the Society generally are under great obligations to Mr. Henry Hunter for the generous way in which he gave his time and services to the Society in fitting up the new premises. They are confident that but for his aid the cost of removal would have been more than doubled. This expenditure does not appear in the accounts of 1881, because it did not take place until the new year had begun.

It is sometimes asked whether, in these days, there is really any need for the maintenance of a Unitarian

Depository. Your Committee are convinced there is great need. Nowhere else can the broad literature of the age on matters of religious thought and life be so readily and so surely obtained; and certainly nowhere else can it be set before the eyes of the people that they may see it and judge for themselves. Your Depository has no *Index Expurgatorius*. Whatever books bearing on any aspect of religious thought are sought for can be procured in your Depository if anywhere. Your Committee do not sit as censors, nor decide by vote as to the suitability of any book for sale. The buyer is the judge. But your Committee from time to time call attention to books they think specially worthy of attention, and so influence, as well as they legitimately can, the reading and thinking of the public. The *Chronicle and Index* has enabled them to do this more efficiently of late, and they hope to do it still better in the future.

In closing this Report, your Committee express the conviction that the full daylight of religious freedom and truth is still far in the distance, and that their own work and that of their successors for many years to come will be performed amid the deep shadows of ancient and vast superstitions, but that the brighter day will dawn and the perfect light appear. Meanwhile, the duty of all brave and true souls is to stand shoulder to shoulder for the right, to testify to the truth they have learned, to seek reverently for more manifestations of the spirit of God, to guard valiantly their birthright of spiritual and mental liberty, and to work and pray for the coming of that true light which will "shine more and more unto the perfect day."

The Treasurer, H. Hyndman, LL.D., then read the following Financial Statement for the year :—

The Treasurer in Account with the Unitarian Society for the Year ending 31st Dec., 1881.

1881.								
To Annual Sermons—								
Second Congregation, Rosemary Street ...			£40	0	8			
Carrickfergus ...			2	7	6			
Moneyrea			2	2	0			
						£44	10	2
,, Subscriptions—								
Town	£43	14	0					
Mountpottinger	3	0	0					
			£46	14	0			
Country—								
Antrim ...	£0	2	6					
Ballee... ...	0	10	0					
Ballyclare ...	0	5	0					
Carrickfergus ...	0	17	6					
Comber (10s of '80)	2	2	6					
Downpatrick ...	1	17	6					
Dromore (5s of '80)	1	1	6					
Dundalk ...	0	5	0					
Dunmurry ...	0	10	0					
Glenarm ...	0	2	6					
Holywood (5s of '80)	0	12	6					
Killinchy ...	0	5	0					
Moneyrea ...	3	5	0					
Rademon ...	0	12	6					
Various ...	0	12	6					
			13	1	6			
						59	15	6
,, Donations—								
William Larmour, C'fergus			£1	0	0			
Killinchy Congregation			2	10	0			
						3	10	0
,, Receipts at Depository ...					...	278	12	11½
,, Rents					...	53	17	4
,, Jubilee Fund, Special Donations					...	23	7	6
,, *Chronicle and Index* Advertisements ...						12	8	9
						£476	2	2½

1881. January 1.					
By Balance brought forward from last account...				£9	15 11½
,, Incidental Expenses—					
Agent for Sundries	£27	6	2		
Printing, Advertising, and Postage ...	1	15	9		
Deputation to Scottish Association ...	1	0	0		
				30	1 11
,, *Chronicle and Index*				18	17 9
,, Agency Expenses—					
Salary of Agent				30	0 0
,, Rent and Taxes—					
Captain Barrett ..	£82	4	0		
Taxes (including arrears)	9	19	6		
				92	3 6
,, Repairs (old except 20s)				4	4 8
,, Insurance				1	2 6
,, Books and Stationery				199	8 2½
,, Jubilee Expenses (including Preacher)				23	2 1
,, Balance to next Account				67	5 7½
				£476	2 2½

It was then moved by J. M. Darbishire, Esq., and seconded by J. F. Mulligan, Esq., and unanimously agreed :—

That the Report and Statement of Accounts be received, adopted, and printed in the *Chronicle and Index*, for circulation among the subscribers and friends of the Society.

It was moved by Herbert Darbishire, Esq., seconded by D. M'Master, Esq., of Moneyrea, and cordially supported :—

That our cordial thanks be given to the Rev. C. C. Coe for his kindness in preaching the Annual Sermons.

The Rev. C. C. Coe then responded in a most interesting and encouraging speech.

The Committee and Officers for the year were appointed as follows :—

W. A. ADAMSON,
T. M'CLELLAND,
W. C. DOBBIN,
GEORGE FISHER,
Rev. J. A. KELLY,
Dr. JOHN M'CAW,
Rev. J. J. WRIGHT,
R. M'CALMONT, F.C.S.
D. M'MASTER,
J. F. MULLIGAN,
J. R. NEILL,
Rev. H. RYLETT,
Dr. JOHN POLLY,
J. MANSELL SMITH,
JOHN BENNETT.

Treasurer :
HUGH HYNDMAN, LL.D.

Secretaries :
Rev. J. C. STREET, J. M. DARBISHIRE,

Auditors :
DAVID W. MOORE, JOHN DOBBIN,

Moved by Rev. J. C. Street, seconded by E. Gardner, Esq., LL.D. (Downpatrick):—

That we rejoice in the growing enlightenment of the

age in matters pertaining to religion; the softening and dissolution of the rigid dogmas of the past; the gradual spread of nobler views of the character of God; and the recognition of personal righteousness as the basis of spiritual communion.

Mr. Eiloart of London, and the Rev. A. Webster of Glasgow supported the resolution.

It was moved by Rev. H. Rylett, seconded by Rev. J. J. Wright:—

That we offer to all workers in, and friends of, Sunday Schools our deepest sympathy, and we cordially wish them God-speed in all their efforts to develop the religious life of the young.

Mr. F. Allen of London responded to the resolution.

Dr. Gardner having taken the second chair, it was moved by George Fisher, Esq., seconded by G. M. Stewart, Esq., and unanimously adopted:—

That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Thomas M'Clelland, Esq., J.P., President of the year, for his kindness in presiding at this meeting. and for his services on behalf of the Society.

Mr. M'Clelland having suitably responded, the proceedings terminated.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The Treasurer of the Unitarian Society begs to acknowledge receipt of the following Subscriptions for 1881:—

BELFAST.

Miss Aston, Meadowbank Terrace ...	£0	2	6
Miss Ferguson, Dunluce Street ...	0	2	6
George Galloway, Botanic Avenue ...	0	3	0
William Galloway do. ...	0	2	6
John Hoy, Great Victoria Street ...	0	8	0
James Kinnear, Donegall Terrace ..	0	2	6
J. Frazer Lowry, Fitzwilliam Street ...	0	2	6
George P. Major, Waring Street ...	0	2	6
Mrs. Major, do. ...	0	2	6
Thomas Major, 8 Donegall Square North	0	2	6
John R. Neill, Queen's Arcade	0	10	0
William Palfreyman, Royal Avenue ...	0	5	0
J. O. Polley, M.D., Beaconsfield Terrace	0	2	6
Wm. Rankin, Belgravia, Ulsterville Av....	0	2	6
Mrs. W. Rankin, do. do. ..	0	2	6
Mrs. Rice, Bradbury Place	0	2	6
John Ritchie, Ulsterville Cottage ...	0	2	6
John Ritchie, jun., do. ...	0	2	6
Mrs. Ritchie, do. ...	0	2	6
Miss Ritchie, do. ..	0	2	6
W. R. Stitt, Fitzwilliam Street ...	0	2	6
A. Ullathorne, Dunluce Street ...	0	2	6
Mrs. Ullathorne, do. ...	0	2	6

MOUNTPOTTINGER.

Samuel Barry, Princes Street	0	2	6
Mrs. Barry, do.	0	2	6
Stephen Chittenden, 52 Calvin Street ...	0	2	6
James Davidson, Queen's Bridge Mills ...	0	2	6
John Davidson, do. ...	0	2	6
Mrs. Dickson, 35 Lonsdale Street ...	0	2	6
John Johnston, Princes' Dock Foundry ...	0	2	6
Alexander King, Ballymacarrett ...	0	5	0
Franklin Manderson, Newtownards Road	0	2	6
John L. Marshall, Sydenham	0	5	0
Robert M'Calmont, F.C.S., 5 M'tpottinger	0	5	0
Mrs. M'Calmont do.	0	2	6
William M'Calmont do.	0	2	6
Mrs. J. T. M'Calmont, Mount Street ...	0	2	6
James M'Quoid, 2 Beechfield Street ...	0	2	6
James M'Williams, 2 Castlereagh Place	0	2	6
Hugh Orr, Waring Street	0	2	6
Rev. J. J. Wright, Bloomfield	0	2	6
David Young, 3 Castlereagh Place ...	0	2	6

ANTRIM.

Rev. W. J. Smith, The Manse ...	0	2	6

BALLEE.

Miss Armour	0	2	6
John Chambers	0	2	6
Rev. John Porter	0	2	6

BALLYCLARE.

W. J. J. Carson, Ballynure	0	2	6
James H. Johnston	0	2	6

COMBER, 1881.

John O. Abernethy	0	2	6
Thomas Andrews	0	5	0
Rev. J. Dunkerley	0	5	0
Dr. Frame	0	2	6
Thomas Henderson	0	2	6
James Milling, ...	0	2	6
John Miller, J.P. (10/- 1880)	1	0	0
John Symenton	0	2	6

DOWNPATRICK.

John Bell, ...	0	2	6
Horatio Croskery	0	2	6
Edward Gardner, LL.D.	0	10	0
Mrs. Gardner	0	10	0
Miss Gardner	0	2	6
Rev. S. C. Nelson	0	2	6
E. F. Nelson, M.D.	0	2	6
Joseph Perry	0	2	6
Miss Stevens	0	2	6

DROMORE.

William Jardine	0	2	6
Rev. W. B. Miniss	0	5	0
Alexander M'Clughan	0	1	0

DUNMURRY.

George M. Millar (Lisburn)	0	5	0
Miss Millar, do.	0	5	0

HOLYWOOD.

G. G. Henderson	0	5	0
Mrs. Henderson	0	2	6

KILLINCHY.

William Barry (Ringneal House, Comber)	0	5	0

MONEYREA.

John Bennett, 8 Mountpottinger ...	0	5	0
James Bennett, Solitude	0	5	0
John Bennett, do.	0	10	0
William Bennett, do.	0	5	0
Nathaniel S. Bodel, Menlough ...	0	5	0
James Catherwood, Clontonacally ...	0	2	6
William Gibson, Menlough	0	5	0
David M'Master, Ballymeladdy ...	0	5	0
Robert Mehaffy, Clontonacally ...	0	2	6
James Orr, Ballykeal	0	5	0
Rev. Harold Rylett, The Manse	0	10	0
Archibald Kennedy Stewart, Ballymeglaff	0	5	0

RADEMON.

Wm. H. Bingham	0	2	6

VARIOUS.

F. W. Kidd, Dundalk	0	5	0
David Thompson, Liverpool	0	2	

AND FOR 1882.

BALLEE.

James Bailie, Portloughan	0	2	6

DROMORE.

Samuel Beck	0	2	0
John Clarke	0	2	6
William Lilburn	0	1	0
Alexander Rea	0	2	6

VARIOUS.

F. W. Kidd, Dundalk	0	5	0

ERRATUM.—The subscription of Mr. John Montgomery, acknowledged in the *Chronicle* for April, should have been 5s instead of 2s 6d.

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AND

MANURE MANUFACTURER.

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Bone Manure,
Grass Manure,
Grain Manure,
Special Manure,
Superphosphate.

Roofing Felt,
Sarking Felt,
Sheathing Felt,
Inodorous Felt,
Foundation Felt,
Asphalting.

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